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WE CLAIM:

- 1 1. A stable pharmaceutical composition comprising a core, wherein the core
2 includes rabeprazole and at least 10% w/w of low viscosity hydroxypropylcellulose.
- 1 2. The stable pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the
2 core further comprises an antioxidant.
- 1 3. The stable pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the
2 viscosity of the low viscosity hydroxypropylcellulose ranges from about 5 m. Pas to about
3 300 m. Pas.
- 1 4. **Cancelled**
- 1 5. **Amended.** The stable pharmaceutical composition according to claim 2,
2 wherein the antioxidant comprises one or both of butylated hydroxy toluene and butylated
3 hydroxy anisole.
- 1 6. The stable pharmaceutical composition according to claim 5, wherein the
2 antioxidant comprises from about 0.02% to about 0.2% by weight of the total core weight.
- 1 7. The stable pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the
2 core further comprise polyvinylpyrrolidone.
- 1 8. **Cancelled**
- 1 9. **Cancelled.**
- 1 10. The stable pharmaceutical composition according to claim 7, wherein the
2 polyvinylpyrrolidone comprises from about 0.5% to about 5% by weight of the total core
3 weight.
- 1 11. **Cancelled.**
- 1 12. **Cancelled.**
- 1 13. The stable pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the
2 core is coated with a subcoat layer and an enteric coat layer.
- 1 14. **Amended.** The stable pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13,
2 wherein the subcoat layer comprises one or more film forming agents comprising one or
3 more of carageenan, ethylcellulose, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, hydroxypropyl

4 cellulose, methylcellulose, carboxymethylcellulose, hydroxymethylcellulose,
5 hydroxyethylcellulose, polyethylene glycol, polyvinyl alcohol and xanthan gum.

1 15. Cancelled

1 16. Cancelled.

1 17. Amended. The stable pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13,
2 wherein the subcoat layer includes an antioxidant.

1 18. Amended. The stable pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13,
2 wherein the enteric coat layer comprises one or more enteric polymers comprising one or
3 more of cellulose acetate phthalate, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose acetate phthalate,
4 polyvinyl acetate phthalate, hydroxy propyl phthalate, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose
5 phthalate, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose acetate succinate; and methacrylic acid
6 copolymers.

1 19. Cancelled

1 20. Cancelled.

1 21. Amended. The stable pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13,
2 wherein one or more of the core, the subcoat layer, and the enteric layer further comprise
3 pharmaceutically acceptable inert excipients-selected from the group consisting of binders,
4 disintegrants, lubricants, glidants, diluents, plasticizers, opacifiers, and coloring agents.

1 22. Cancelled

1 23. A process for preparing a stable pharmaceutical composition comprising a
2 core, the process comprising:

3 preparing a core by

4 (i) blending rabeprazole and a low viscosity hydroxypropylcellulose to form a
5 blend, and

6 one or both of (ii) granulating the blend and (iii) compressing the blend to form
7 a compact mass core, wherein the low viscosity hydroxypropylcellulose comprises at least
8 10% w/w of the core.

1 24. Amended. The process according to claim 23, further comprising coating
2 the core with one or both of a subcoat layer and an enteric coat layer.

1 25. **Amended.** The process according to claim 23, further comprising blending
2 one or more antioxidants with the rabeprazole and low viscosity hydroxypropylcellulose.

1 26. The process according to claim 25, wherein the antioxidant is adsorbed
2 over a diluent.

1 27. **Cancelled.**

1 28. **Cancelled.**

1 29. The process according to claim 23, wherein the core is prepared by one or
2 more of a wet granulation method, a dry granulation method, or a direct compression
3 method.

1 30. **Cancelled.**

1 31. The process according to claim 24, wherein one or both of the subcoat layer
2 and the enteric coat layer are applied as a solution/suspension.

1 32. The process according to claim 31, wherein the solution/suspension is
2 prepared in solvents selected from the group consisting of methylene chloride, isopropyl
3 alcohol, acetone, methanol, ethanol, water and mixtures thereof.

1 33. The process according to claim 24, wherein one or both of the subcoat layer
2 and the enteric coat layer are applied using a hot melt technique.

1 34. **Cancelled.**

1 35. **Cancelled.**

1 36. The process according to claim 24, wherein the viscosity of the low
2 viscosity hydroxypropylcellulose ranges from about 5 m. Pas to about 300 m. Pas.

1 37. **Amended.** A method of treating digestive ulcers in a mammal by
2 administering to the mammal a stable pharmaceutical composition of rabeprazole
3 according to claim 1.

1 38. **Cancelled**

1 39. The method of treating of claim 37, wherein the core further comprises an
2 antioxidant.